

2-19-1997

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The Knight



THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF NSU's
FARQUHAR CENTER FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

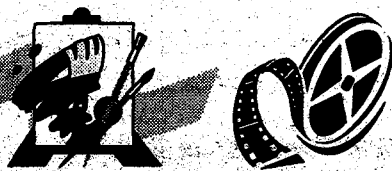
Volume 7 Issue 17
19 February 1997

In This Issue . . .

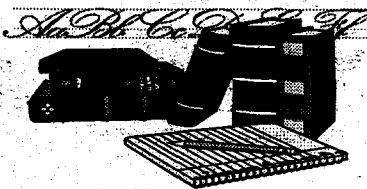
Campus Life...4



A&E...8



Editorials...9



Sports...15



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Does Nova have a racial problem?

by Christie MacDonald,
Layout Editor
Kelvin Vidale,
Entertainment Editor

In our age of political correctness, racial concerns still permeate college campuses. A Georgetown Law Center student wrote an article stating that African Americans didn't belong at Georgetown because their test scores and grade point averages did not meet admission standards*.

The women of Delta Sigma Theta, an historically black sorority, were racially harassed and called "water buffaloes," among other derogatory terms, by white students at the University of Pennsylvania. The National Institute Against Prejudice & Violence reported racial episodes at over 300 colleges and universities between 1986 and 1991**. While Nova Southeastern is not a hotbed of racial confrontation, evidence suggests that racial issues exist on campus. To assess the state of race relations, we looked at student interaction, student and faculty opinions, the curriculum, and the diversity of the faculty.

When asked about the state of race relations on campus, students

and faculty had various reactions.

Student Sharon Hinds stated, "It's an undercover issue. It's here, but it's not spoken about."

Student Sherard Hernandez commented, "I don't see any problem because if there was conflict, there would be a lot of confrontations."

Student Tamara Sands stated, "We do have an issue, but it's not on the forefront."

Student Sandra Silva said, "I don't think that a lot of that stuff [racial tension] goes on. But I haven't

think it's a comfortable relationship . . . I have not heard any comments or complaints."

Student Karina Hermelijn said, "I have had some instances at this school that indicate that racism goes on under the table. For instance, I had a problem with my former soccer coach two years ago. He was fired, but he made a comment that all black and Chinese students look alike and that they should be named alike."

Dr. Scott Stoddart, Associate

Professor of Liberal Arts, stated, "I believe a race problem exists on campus. [My] African-American literature [class] has 32 students in it and 4 are white. I think it says it right there."

While race relations may or may not be benign, racial separation exists on campus. On any given day, when one looks at the

Rosenthal cafeteria, it is evident that the races are not integrated. Whites sit with whites, blacks sit with blacks, Hispanics with Hispanics, see CAMPUS on 10



Do the races get along at Nova? Picture courtesy of Christina Gay.

seen a lot of Asians . . . I am part Asian so maybe that's why I'm drawn to that subject."

Dr. Lena Hall, Associate Professor of Psychology, commented, "I

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Now Hiring

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The Knight Newspaper serves Nova Southeastern's Farquhar Center for Undergraduate Studies from its office on the second floor of the Rosenthal Student Center at NSU's main campus.

The Knight is NSU's established vehicle for the transmission of student reporting, opinion, and arts. All community members are invited to contribute anything they desire to The Knight.

The Knight is readily available at several sites around the campus and the local community, including the East Campus site, the Oceanographic Center in Dania, and the Davie-Cooper City Chamber of Commerce.

Address all distribution concerns to Sandi Kell 1996-97 Distribution Manager, at (954) 262-8455.

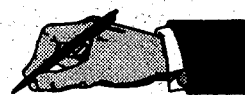
The Knight is now also available online. Students may access the online version of The Knight at "http://www.cris.com/~goldenr/knight.html."

The deadline for submissions for this year's eighteenth issue, which appears on February 19 is March 5. The advertising deadline for the eighteenth issue is February 26. E-mail the Advisor at Internet address "jackson@polaris.acast.nova.edu" to find out how you can become involved with the SCO.

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Letter to the Editor



Dear Editor,

The Knight Newspaper's February 5, 1997 article on the fire in Goodwin Hall is a nice press release but I felt the need to tell the true story. I wanted to clear up the inaccuracies in The Knight and add detail where The Knight had none.

Because The Knight Newspaper never interviewed me, I thought I would take this time to impart to you the details of what really happened that afternoon.

On January 24, 1997, as I walked down the hallway to my room, I heard the soft scream of an alarm and saw a light smoke outside my door. Reacting quickly, I opened my door and found the room blanketed by a thick, black smoke. I saw a fire, which at the time appeared contained, in the corner of the room.

I quickly grabbed some clothes from my bed and tried to pat out the fire. This action did little to stop the fire, and caused minor injury to my hand. I realized that I was doing nothing to stop the fire, which had started to climb the wall by this time.

I ran from the room, gasping lung fulls of fresh air, and straight to my R.A.'s room. I knocked several times but it seemed no one was home.

I was panicked and scared, and had no idea what to do next. I am lucky that my three rescuers came to my aid. Nick Catalfamo, Alyson Dion, and Jason Gavril were walking down the hallway to Alyson's room, when they saw me pounding on the R.A.'s door. Inquiring what was wrong, I sputtered out that my room was on fire.

Thankfully, the three of them took charge of the situation. They ran with me back to my room and tried to assess the fire. Jason grabbed the fire extinguisher as Nick and I opened the door. Billows of black smoke poured out of the room, and it was quickly decided to leave the building.

I want to take the time now to point out that the building wide fire alarm never went off. The only alarm that went off was my room alarm. The building alarm did not go off until Alyson pulled it. Strangely enough it took her three

hard pulls before the alarm finally sounded.

Nick guided me down the stairs while Jason and Alyson told people slowly exiting their rooms that this was not a drill and that the building was indeed on fire. When I was finally outside, the shock of what was and had happened hit me. I needed to sit down. Thankfully, Jason led me to a bench where I collapsed gratefully.

The Davie Fire Department arrived quickly enough, within two minutes of my exit from the building. Jason ran to get help for me as Nick and Alyson comforted me and soothed my nerves.

The time after my escape from the building is a haze in my mind, one I care never to relive. It was a mess of fire fighters and paramedics.

People were not allowed back into the building until around 10:00 p.m., not 8:00 p.m. as reported in The Knight.

The last point I would like to clear up is the cause of the fire. Fire Marshal Jim Minner allowed me back into my room well before anyone else was allowed back into the building, and explained to me what had happened. It seemed that the black light's cord was defective and had caught fire and burned from the inside out. The fire was not caused by the rubbing of the cord between the wall and trunk and reported in The Knight. It was a factory problem, one resulting in fire sooner or later.

The rest of The Knight's article contained factual information. There was a fire, and water damage was a major problem.

There is one thing I will never forget. After the fire, there seemed to be one big party outside Goodwin Hall. People acted as if this was just another false alarm, even though it was quite obviously a real fire.

I assume because of all the false alarms, people have taken a non-caring attitude towards the alarms. This is a grave mistake, one that can end in death. People should treat every alarm as he real thing and not just another "drill."

If I have learned one thing from this ordeal, it is that fires can happen to anyone at any time. They are

deadly and destructive forces, and need to be taken seriously.

I would like to take this time to thank the Davie Fire Department, Nick Catalfamo, Jason Gavril, and Alyson Dion, Mike Fischer, Jen Daria, and Jen Choinski for helping me clean up the mess after the fire, and my mother Rodney for emotional support.

Sincerely,
Michelle Smith

I, however, do not see any substantial difference between Ms. Smith's reaction and the original piece. The biggest discrepancies are the time differences and the causal difference.

The time difference consists of a mere two hour.

After contacting the Public Safety Department, it was confirmed that the fire trucks arrived back at the fire department at 7:02 PM, to which, "at most an hour should be added to compensate for the fire marshall, the cleanup process, and reactivating all the systems that had been shutdown."

The causal difference was confirmed for The Knight by Public Safety officials on the scene, and by State Fire Marshall Jim Minner, as mentioned in the original article, on or around 28 January, the Tuesday following the fire, after the investigation had been finalized. This is much later than Ms. Smith's, possibly premature, meeting with Marshall Minner.

In addition Stan Stake, Associate Director of Public Safety, when asked, found no problem with the previous article during a phone conversation.

I would, however, like to echo Ms. Smith's warning to all regarding the gravity of the danger of fires.
Nathan Burgess,
Editor in Chief

If you would like to send a letter to the editor, please drop your letter off at our office on the second floor of the Rosenthal Student Center or mail it to The Knight, 3301 College Avenue, Davie, FL 33314. We appreciate your input.

Fecundity and the College Student

by Christina Gay
Campus Life Editor

"It can't happen to me," is most young people's response to the problem of unwanted pregnancy. But what about infertility? According to Dr. Mark S. Denker of a popular Boyton Beach clinic, approximately 19% of otherwise healthy couples aged 18-24 have difficulty conceiving. Why?

30% of all infertility cases remain unexplained. After all the laparoscopies and hysterosalpingograms, enzyme tests and sperm counts, some couples just can't reproduce.

13% of infertility is attributed to endometriosis, a condition in which the lining of the uterus escapes from it and begins following the menstrual cycle in other parts of the body. Endometriosis can only be diagnosed through laparoscopy, in which a very small video camera is inserted through a incision just under the navel. Attached to camera is a laser,

so that the corrective laser surgery may be performed at the same time.

Another 18% is caused by coital problems such as improper positioning and timing. A large part, 30%, is a result of blocked or damaged Fallopian tubes. This makes it diffi-

higher fertility.

If the first step is not successful, the next step is a procedure such as InVitro Fertilization (IVF) or the GIFT procedure. In IVF, eggs are harvested from the female, and sperm from the male. Some of the

options are surrogates and adoption. Unfortunately, many couples are afraid to use surrogates because of several reported cases in which a surrogate, instead of turning the child over to the couple, claimed the child was hers since she had given birth to it. The suits were overturned, but have made many couples wary.

Adoption is also a risky alternative. Finding a legitimate adoption service, paying reasonable fees and making sure you get the child you asked for are challenges for the novice couple.

In the end, experiencing the joy of parenthood is not easy for some to get started on, but thanks to many medical and social interventions, most couples eventually become families.



For most infertile couples, there are several available treatments.

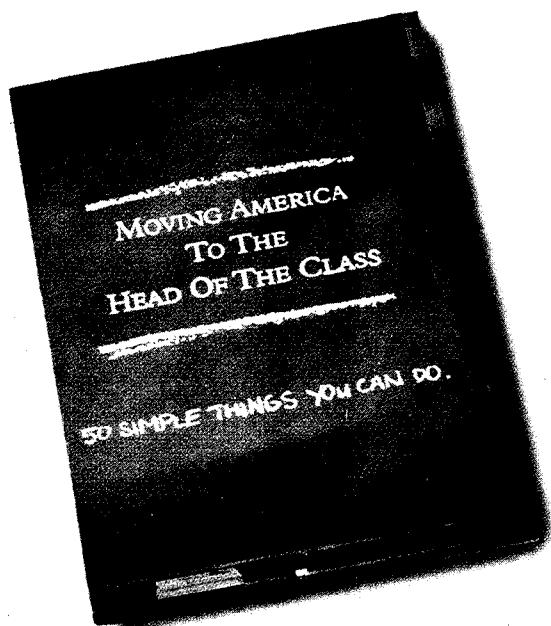
cult, if not impossible, for the mature follicles to travel from the ovaries to be fertilized. The final 39% is a lack of (or abnormal timing of) ovulation.

For most infertile couples, there are several available treatments. The first step is fertility drugs. These medicines make the female's body work overtime to produce eggs, in the hope that more eggs means

eggs are fertilized in a laboratory and returned to the female's uterus while others are frozen for later retrieval. GIFT is similar, but instead of being fertilized in the lab, the sperm and eggs are put back into the Fallopian tube, and left to fertilize or not on their own.

If all of the above interventions do not work, the couple's last two

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for anyone
who knows a kid.



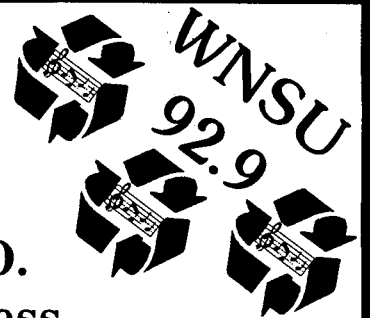
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Love Jen Most Profitable Ever

by Christina Gay
Campus Life Editor

Every year many of us look forward to the Love Jen Festival without fully understanding its origin. The festival is a fundraiser in memory of Jennifer Masi who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, an aggressive form of cancer that attacks the nervous system, when she was three years old. Memorial Hospital (now Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital) was lit up by her courageous struggle to live every day to the fullest, and to brighten the lives of the children who shared the oncology wing with her.

Jennifer died at fourteen, but out of her tragedy rose the Love Jen Festival, an annual event established by her parents which raises money for the Love Jen Children's Cancer Fund for Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. Funds are used to provide supportive, therapeutic, educational, and recreational services for the families with children in the Pediatric Oncology Specialty Center.

This year's festival took place on a balmy Saturday, February 1, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the East Lawn of NSU's Main Campus. Volunteers from many community organizations such as churches, middle and high schools and NSU students and staff came out in force to make each of the activity booths and services come alive. This year's Love Jen was bigger and better than

ever with the addition of several new aspects, as well as tried and true ones.

The crowd was entertained by a band, gymnasts, dancers and actors on both the North and South stages and an assortment of clowns who

Love Jen Festival ever. The day's activities raised more than \$110,000 for children's cancer. Approximately 4,000-5,000 people from all over South Florida came to enjoy the festivities and help raise funds for the continued survival of Jennifer Masi's

legacy.



Photo courtesy of Victor Garcia.

walked through the masses spreading good cheer. There were ponies for riding, lots of foods and drinks, a really big slide, free temporary tattoos, and even a psychic.

Mother Goose was on hand for fairy tale time, but that didn't stop those Hooters girls from being out and about. There were also many educational exhibits from archeology to safe driving to art for young people, but behind it all was the dedicated staff of the Family and School Center who put it all together.

Roni Liederman headed the crew that put together the most profitable

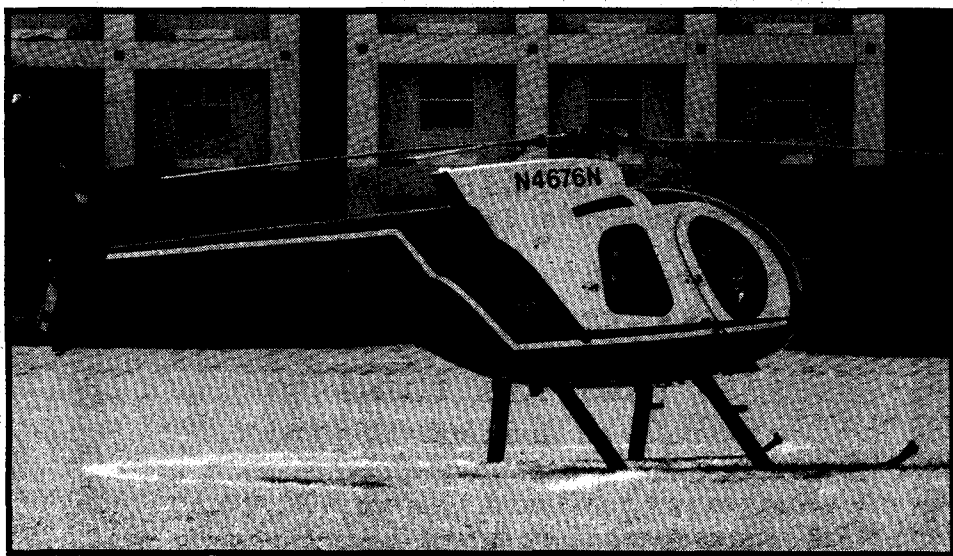
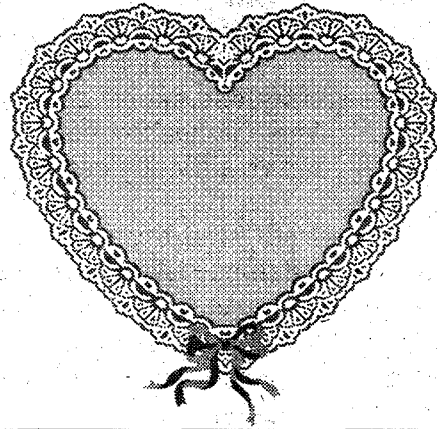


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Kurt Vonnegut, Unplugged

by Nathan Burgess
Editor in Chief

Kurt Vonnegut's visit to Nova Southeastern University was a much-anticipated event for all.

The writer impacted lives starting in 1952 with the publication of his first novel, *Player Piano*, and his legacy lives on today.

Vonnegut visited us as the second of three Nova Forum presentations. *The Capitol Steps* were the first program, and Tim Riley will appear on 4 March.

The visit to Nova was preceded by much fanfare, ranging from ads in *The Knight*, to a film series offered at no cost to the NSU Community.

Vonnegut addressed the NSU community twice during his stay here. He first appeared in the afternoon of 4 February, and returned that evening at the main Health Professions Division auditorium to an audience of about 400.

Introduced by Dr. Ben Mulvey, Vonnegut spoke to the audience about topics ranging from the importance of family to censorship, and most everything in-between. Vonnegut emphasized the need to have a large extended family outside a person's blood relations.

Vonnegut explained that the only way to be considered an adult in this country is to have a "puberty ceremony," such as a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, or as was more common in the past, to go off to war.

Vonnegut's emphasis on family continued into the realm of educa-

tion. Emphasizing the need for small classes, (limited to 18 students) Vonnegut explained that when classes are limited to that size, "the smart kids can help the dumb kids" without problem. Additionally, Vonnegut commented that if a teacher, teaching to a class of only 18, does not know the information, and obviously can not relay it to the students, the students will let the teacher know.

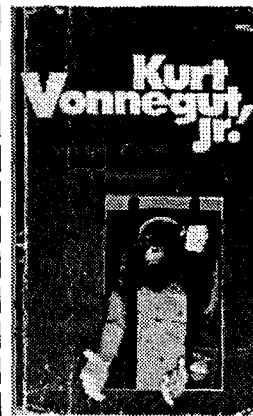
Vonnegut also emphasized the nobility associated with teaching, and criticized the way teachers are "treated like dirt."

"Aliteracy," Vonnegut commented, is the disinterest to read fiction by those who can. This trend, he said, was like jock itch in that it is more predominant in the male population.

Vonnegut went on to explain the main types of stories that are common in literature, and the appeal each of these has. Vonnegut also commented that "people who can afford books and movies don't want to hear about sick people."

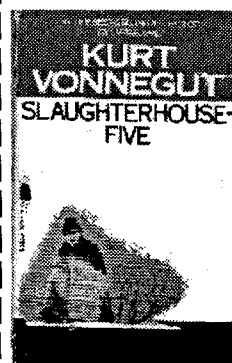
Vonnegut concluded by relating to us why *Hamlet* was the best piece of literature in history: It is true to life. *Hamlet*, the character, goes through the trials and tribulations of life, having to make difficult decisions the entire way, none of which being truly clearcut.

For
student
reactions
to Kurt
Vonnegut
See page 7



"My favorite [Vonnegut book] is not a book but a very short story that I force my students to read whenever I can: 'Harrison Bergeron'"

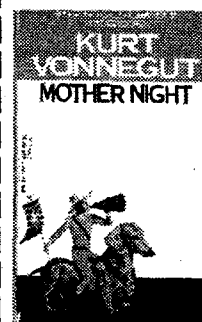
--Dr. Suzanne Ferriss



"The Vonnegut book that I recall most vividly is *Slaughterhouse-Five*. As a college student in the early 1970's this book evoked the anti-

war sentiments of my generation. In addition, my father was in the army, stationed in various parts of Europe during World War II. His memory of the war was much like Vonnegut's -- war was not a grand and glorious victory that made a man into a hero. For my father, war was as close as he ever wanted to come to hell."

--Madeline Penna



"My favorite Vonnegut novel, without a doubt, is *Mother Night*. It's a black comedy about the nature of prejudice and morality with the Holocaust as the back-

drop. Vonnegut manages to reveal deep insights about the dark side of human nature with wit and grace."

--Dr. Ben Mulvey



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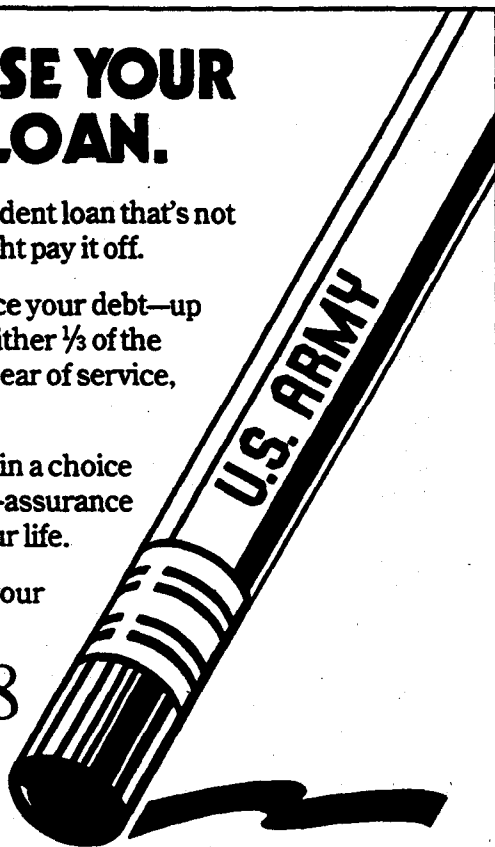
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"Friendship" Program Touches Students

by Jennifer Lenz
Contributing Writer

The Mailman-Hollywood Auditorium was packed full with approximately 185 people on Thursday, February 6, 1997. The NSU students had not come to attend a mandatory seminar or to a lecture with hopes they would receive extra credit for a class. Nova's students came to learn more about AIDS and to hear Joel Goldman and T.J. Sullivan's heart-touching story about how the deadly disease affected their lives.

After a video was presented showing how AIDS affects mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters, grandparents, and friends, T.J. Sullivan began the presentation entitled, "Friendship in the Age of AIDS." He told the audience how he felt the day his best friend Joel told him he was HIV positive.

Joel and T.J. were two fraternity men who thought they could be untouched by the AIDS virus. They explained how in the 80's, which was

when Joel was infected with the disease, the statistics were that every 1 in 10,000 college students would be infected. Statistics proved to be wrong for Joel, who was infected from having unprotected sex.

T.J. and Joel's message is simply to be smart. They told students that the best way to avoid HIV is to remain abstinent. However, if you are sexually active, remember to always use protection and make sure you and your partner have been tested.

A monogamous relationship is the best and the safest kind of relationship. They discussed how alcohol and sex call for an unsafe situation.

The ways to use a condom were mentioned. "An opened condom, a condom with an expired packaging date, or a condom without air in it is like opening a bag of Doritos sitting on the shelf in a supermarket. You wouldn't buy the Doritos because they wouldn't be any good.

see AIDS on page 16

Liza Minnelli to Appear at Broward Center

Press Release

Award-winning entertainer Liza Minnelli is making a stop at the Broward Center for Performing Arts to two dazzling shows on Sunday, Feb. 23 and Monday, Feb. 24 at 8 p.m. in the Center's majestic Auer-Rene Theater.

Winner of three Tony Awards, an Oscar, two Golden Globe Awards and an Emmy, Minnelli is one of the entertainment world's consummate performers. She will delight audiences with favorites known by fans from around her two best-selling albums, "Liza with a Z" and "Liza Minnelli: The Singer." Minnelli's newest album entitled "Gently" is a collection of sultry jazz-pop numbers and features duets with Donna Summer and Johnny Mathis.

A Los Angeles native, Minnelli is the daughter of the legendary Judy Garland and the distinguished Academy Award-winning film director Vincente Minnelli. It was in 1965,

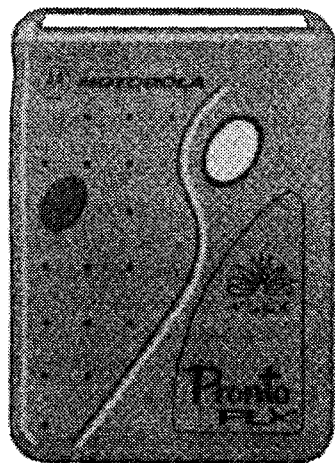
at age 19, when Minnelli became the youngest actress to ever win a Tony Award for a musical role in her Broadway debut "Flora, The Red Menace." Then in 1973, a special Tony was awarded to her for breaking the box office record at the Winter Garden Theatre for her one-woman show.

And in 1977, Minnelli returned to the Broadway stage in a starring role of the Fred Ebb-John Kander musical "The Act," for which she was honored with her third Tony.

Minnelli hit it big in 1972. She won the Oscar for Best Actress and the Golden Globe Award for Outstanding Performance for her role as Sally Bowles in "Cabaret." She also was awarded the British equivalent of the Oscar for Best Actress with Italy's coveted David di Donatello Award (awarded to her twice for "The Sterile Cuckoo" and "Cabaret") and the Valentino Award.

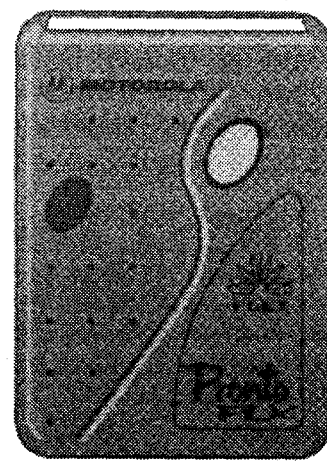
That very same year, her televi-

see SUPERSTAR on page 16



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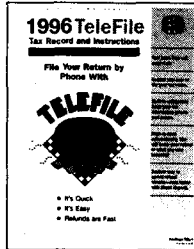
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The Knight would like to announce its staff changes, as of this issue. The position of Layout Editor is being taken over by Christie MacDonald, and the position of Associate Editor is being taken over by Daniel Illman.

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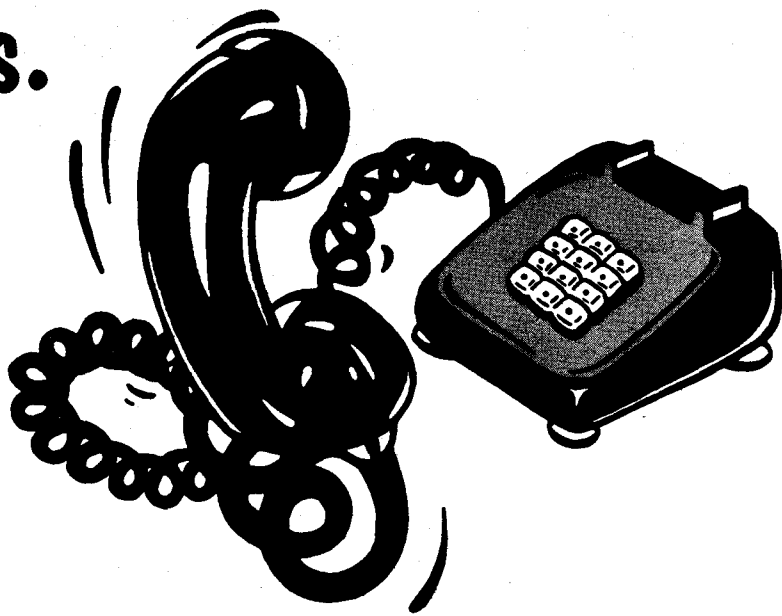


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Students react to Kurt Vonnegut

"Vonnegut did not seem extremely fond of our computer systems in our society today. He stated that they are just excuses for us not to be "dancing" on our own. I strongly agreed on his views as such."

--Michael Maleh

"To be honest I did not want to see Kurt Vonnegut. I thought that it would be a long drawnout speech. I am happy to say that I was terribly wrong."

--Alima Garba

"I basically didn't agree with most of his views. I think that computers and technology are helping us solve problems that we could have never solved before."

--Justin Iskra

"He looks like a very educated person. The session was very interesting and educational. It showed us the differences between his generation and ours in terms of education."

--Eduardo Lopes

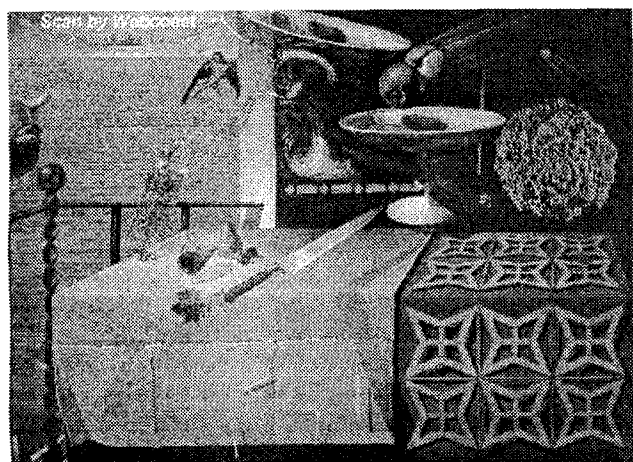
Arts & Entertainment

Dali Delights at Museum of Art

by Nathan Burgess
Editor in Chief

Three exhibits currently on display at the Museum of Art in Ft. Lauderdale, One East Las Olas Boulevard, are truly excellent and encompass forms of art currently rarely used if at all.

The museum currently houses



Treasures from the Salvador Dali Museum, Judaic Treasures of the Library of Congress, and Joe Nicastri, Views of the Holocaust.

For a mere \$3 for students, with student identification, the chance to explore all of these displays is available, as well as the museum's regular collection.

The Salvador Dali exhibit features works from The Salvador Dali Museum in Sarasota. The exhibit, on display until 6 April, brings to us a variety of works including sculptures, paintings, sketches, and photographs.

Included in the display are some of Dali's more famous works such as "Nature Morte Vivante," and "Dante." The exhibit displays the gems of this recently passed on artist.

An art appreciator that may little, or nothing, about Dali need not fear this display. A brief history before, and after Dali's entrance into surrealism is on display as well as explanations into the masterpieces.

On the second floor of the Museum one immediately encounters

perhaps the most moving sculpture of the Nicastri exhibit. A multimedia presentation, still unthinkable in cyberspace. The sculpture, titled "According to the Plan" (1997), created by Joe Nicastri, not only permeates your sense of sight, but also engulfs your sense of smell.

"According to the Plan" consists of 11 hanging stacks of burnt books attached to a wooden skeleton that rises many feet over your head.

The intense smell of these burnt books forces the viewer into the art and no longer makes them merely a viewer.

Additionally its placement at the front of the display guarantees it being seen by all.

"Kristallnacht,"

Fulflej: can't spell, can rip

by Nick Moore
Assistant Layout Editor

With some bands, there is no way of telling how far they'll go. Fulflej (pronounced "full fledge") is one of them.

Fulflej started out near the end of the Vietnam War, and since M.C. No Joke G, Maff-yoo Nillsun and Andre Fill-ups met that cold day a long time ago they have been on the search for the perfect sound. Well, ladies and gents, Fulflej has found it with an easy going debut album called *Wack-ass Tuba Riff*, which some have claimed to sound like "Dinosaur Jr. with a groove beat."

As with most albums, I was skeptical. How could something named "Tuba Riff" be good? Many bands have claimed to have good CDs with rip-roarin' tracks. A lot of them, such as the current Alice in Chains album, simply suck despite those claims. Then there are those who are modest and let their music speak for itself; such is Fulflej.

Riff seemed to start out pretty moderate, like it was a borderline high school-college band. Its easy-flowing poppy-alternative music needed a test. How to truly test a

band with an album that was sounding pretty good? I gave *Riff* the ultimate: the "ignore" test. What this test is about is this: pop it in the CD player and try to ignore it. If it was possible to ignore the entire album or at least half the tracks, then it failed.

So I threw it on, hit play, and went on the computer, which I get absorbed in when I try hard enough. And yet, damn if the thing didn't sound even better! I particularly enjoyed the fact that this wasn't your ordinary "teen angst alternative blow up the outside world" kind of album. It didn't settle in my stomach heavily, like Soundgarden and Nirvana do. Just when I thought the entire show was over, whammo, a secret track hit me in the head as though someone had thrown a brick. It was a sharp contrast with deep, dark melodies that qualified itself as Rap. This secret track knocked off points for the album, as I was unimpressed by the screaming and the cussing.

It is my definite opinion that if you enjoy Green Day, the Presidents and othe college-rock bands, it would be an advantage to own *Wack-ass Tuba Riff*. The album is about as good as a Pepsi and as addictive as Chee-tos.

also by Nicastri, takes Jewish religious texts and uses them as frames for broken pieces of glass.

Named after the Kristallnacht during the Holocaust, in which the Nazis destroyed Jewish owned shops, and burned Jewish religious texts, the placing of these texts as borders and limitations on the destructiveness of the broken glass shows a very different aspect to Nazi Germany's Final Plan.

The *Judaic Treasures of the Library of Congress*, on display until 16 March, exhibit of historic documents shows Jewish life in an entirely new fashion. Featuring pieces of writing such as hand-written letters between previous presidents of

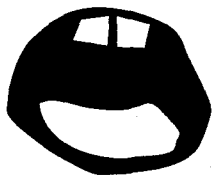
the United States and Jewish congregations or organizations across the U.S., and a multitude of antique historical religious documents.

The exhibit does not attempt to make a religious statement of any sort, but shows a variety of historic documents relating to the Jewish people, and to the heritage of America.

The Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Art is located at 1 East Las Olas Boulevard in Downtown Ft. Lauderdale. Admission to the museum is \$6 for Adults, \$5 for Senior Citizens, \$3 for Students with identification, and \$1 for children between 5 and 18. The museum can be contacted at (954) 525-5500



EDITORIALS



Commencement Speaker Tradition Focuses on School Excellence

by Kelvin Vidale
Entertainment Editor

Nova Southeastern University chooses one student to address the graduating class at its annual commencement ceremony. This tradition coincides with the usual presentation of a person outside the university performing a similar duty. Both speakers try to capture their audience's attention with bold words for the future and hope to spare them an inundation of clichés.*

While this honor seems a formidable one to carry out, commencement speakers add to the occasion's mood of high expectations. It appears, however, that more regard goes to the outside speaker than to the graduating senior. What makes this matter annoying is that the student speaker provides a perspective about his or her experience at NSU that more reliably measures the school's academic reputation than a celebrity could.

On a national level, colleges invite persons outside academe to bring the school media attention and name recognition. College administrations think entertainers attract publicity to their schools that doctors, scientists, lawyers, public officials, or students cannot. To get these well known popular culture figures, colleges tend to lure them to the podium with honorary degrees (a distinction reserved for persons who achieve intellectual excellence).

U.S. News and World Report details how Jerry Seinfeld received one from Queens College while Brandeis University turned Barbara Streisand into Dr. Streisand. Entertainers may have achieved high status in their respective industries but deserve recognition from television or music organizations. When celebrities get the spotlight at a college commencement it is not because they have exemplary scholarship behind them.

Inviting these celebrities implies that persons inside the colleges,

widely respected faculty and students, cannot bring recognition to the school.

Students across the country express their disapproval of this practice on the basis that school administrations select commencement speakers without involving them.

According to an article published in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Harvard University received opposition to its 1993 commencement speaker, General Colin L. Powell. Local gays and lesbians acknowledged Gen. Powell's impressive record of service but viewed the decision by their school's president, Neil Rudenstine, as a clash with the top university official's views and those belonging to the group. Gen. Powell expressed opposition to lifting the ban on permitting gays in the military. President Rudenstine's support of a speaker who endorses institutional discrimination bothered the gay and lesbian community enough that it planned to shout "Lift the Ban" as Gen. Powell received his honorary doctorate.

When colleges scramble to find a big-name speaker, they sometimes overlook the celebrity's values and give little consideration to students' requests. This custom could rile students to the point where they offend administrators and alumni and turn a joyous occasion into a rally for higher ideals. NSU seems to be the exception to this rule.

Nova Southeastern has a record of involving students in the selection of a commencement speaker. Students have sat on commencement committees. The university also welcomes their suggestions for speakers and then submits all recommended names to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Past speakers at this school's commencement ceremonies suggest that it considers the speaker's background and then compares it with its own ideals before making a decision about whether the person could ad-

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dress the audience. A majority of the school's past speakers come from public service professions. In 1990, Florida Senator Robert Graham had the honor. Representatives from different non-profit organizations, Dr. William Schulz of Amnesty International USA and Millard Fuller of Habitat for Humanity, left their mark not too long ago—1995 and 1996, respectively.

Perhaps two other persons go against this non-celebrity trend. In 1989, Dwight Lauderdale of Channel 10 ABC News gave the address and Dr. Maya Angelou did it three years later. Someone from the local

news does not qualify as a national celebrity and while Dr. Angelou's accomplishments range from writing collections of poems to speaking at President Clinton's inaugural ceremony, her position as an instructor at Wake Forest University grants her some academic respectability. So, NSU probably selects persons with some record of public service whether it happens on a local or national level. Once the college or university administration decides on a commencement speaker the students may not respect the selection but usually accept it. What happens

see *STUDENT* on 13

Campus Race Issues Examined

from the cover

and so on. However, many don't view racial separatism as a problem.

In response to the racial separation on campus, Dr. Lena Hall commented that, "It's not unusual that black students tend to socialize with other black students and white students socialize with white students. . . we're talking about a comfort level here."

Jessica Hernandez, a senior majoring in psychology, agreed and said, "I think everywhere you go you're going to find separation of the races . . . not because people don't like other races, but because they feel more comfortable . . . it's not an issue of separation but people being comfortable and understanding each other."

Racial separation also exists with student clubs on campus. The Pan African Student Association and the Nova International Student Association were formed as support networks for minorities. Although both groups welcome outside members, the majority of PASA's members are black and the majority of NISA's members are Hispanic.

In reaction to these student clubs, student Dennis Hodos states, "I think there is a stigma as far as race relations. A primary example where you can see this is through the clubs. In fact, I believe that the clubs and organizations promote racism on this campus . . . maybe not in a conscious fashion. All these clubs are open to the student body but most students promote the stereotype that PASA is for blacks and Hillel is only for Jewish students."

Another way to look at racial issues is to examine the curriculum. The mission statement for the Farquhar Center explains that Nova Southeastern "acknowledges and supports the diversity of its student population. We recognize that the social and economic challenges facing our community call for thoughtful and compassionate responses. . . We commit ourselves to support the small class setting as the primary venue for the exploration and examination of important issues of our time."

Every Professional and Liberal Studies student is required to take the multicultural course Other Voices, Other Visions as part of the General Education Program. In addition, the student is required to choose one class out of six options for a Hemispheric and Global Diversity requirement.

Dr. Barbara Brodman, Associate Professor of Liberal Arts, stated, "Historically, as an institution, we've probably made a considerable effort to integrate issues related to cultural diversity and race relations into the curriculum. If you look at our Core curriculum, there are a number of courses that can or do directly relate to issues of race relations and cultural diversity."

Dr. Stoddart stated, "The [Farquhar Center] mission is very specific about finding ways of integrating cultures and I don't think that two courses in a student's curriculum is a guarantee that integration is going on."

Dr. Richard Mordi, Associate Professor of Liberal Arts, commented, "In the Core curriculum, the professor is introduced to the courses and told what he or she is to do. That is, he or she is to build bridges across various primordial groups. By primordial, I mean things that people cannot change such as race and gender."

The diversity of the faculty may also indicate the university's stand on race relations. Currently, the faculty does not reflect the ethnic mix of the student body (see graph).

Nova Southeastern wants to have minority faculty members.

"Everybody wants to have an African-American or Asian or minorities . . . to get a black woman into your faculty really helps you in a number of ways," according to Dr. Stuart Horn, Dean for Undergraduate Studies.

As a minority faculty member, Dr. Hall states, "It's always good to see a faculty member who looks like you. I think my role here is not just for an academic, advising purpose, but to also provide a model for students."

However, gaining these minori-

ties is more difficult than it seems. Many schools around the country compete for the few minorities with Ph.D.'s.

"For every 100 white Ph.D.'s, there is one job. For an African-American with a Ph.D. who is looking for a job, there are probably 100 jobs available," stated Dr. Horn.

One method for recruiting minority members as faculty is to use a minority bank. A minority bank is a place where minorities can put their resumes to apply to schools that are looking for minority faculty.

Regardless of recruiting through the minority bank, qualified minorities may still not choose Nova. The university's location in Davie, FL may not be an amiable place for minority families to live.

Dr. Stoddart stated, "Davie is not a friendly place for black families to live seeing as how the Ku Klux Klan is very prominent down here. I think traditionally that is seen as a problem in a lot of Southern schools as well. . . so I don't think Nova is out-of-line racially."

In essence, Nova Southeastern has racial issues that affect the campus at large. While student interaction is cordial, students remain primarily in separate groups. The curriculum is somewhat diversified, but the faculty does not reflect the ethnic composition of the student population.

* Mabry, Marcus. "Confronting Campus Racism." *Black Collegian*, 1991.

** Blount, Ericka. "Why Can't Blacks and Whites See Eye-to-Eye at University of Pennsylvania?"

What is your opinion of race relations on campus?

"I see a lot of interaction between students of different races."

Shalini Maharaj
Life Science Major

"There's always room for improvement. We can improve the situation by having a more diverse faculty."

David Escartin
Business Major

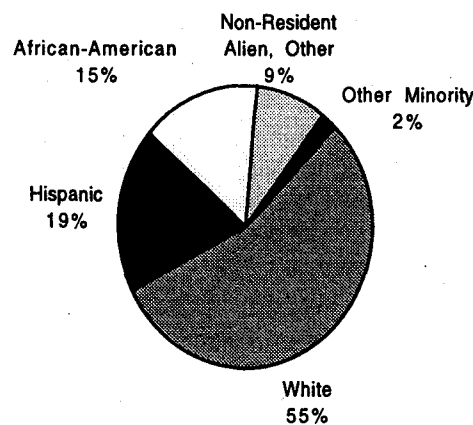
"I would like to see more interracial relationships. There is nothing wrong with being different."

Ruth Fleurimont
Psychology Major

"Good race relations ease tension so we all can get along."

Kevin Billings
Computer Information Systems

Racial/Ethnic Distribution Fall 1995



Source: NSU Fact Book 1996



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The Meaning of 'Black'

by Sherard Hernandez
Contributing Writer

Have you ever heard the saying "Black Is Beautiful?" Have you wondered where certain phrases involving the 'black' derive from? Sometimes it's difficult to determine. Despite the word's dominating significance, it retains various definitions. For instance, it could be defined as a "destitute of light," "gloomy," "sullen," and many others. 'Black' can also define the soil and grit of a human being, or certain propaganda at hand. In the Webster's Dictionary, the word "black" is used as an adjective, meaning "lacking hue and brightness." Sometimes the word "hostile" is used to define the word "black."

In Florida, New York, and California, the word "black" is very common. It has been used throughout time to characterize a race or group of people because of their dark pigmentation. In addition, the word "black" represents the Negro population all over the world. In many situations, the word "black" is used in a negative manner. For instance, occurrences where people participate in wicked acts such as voodoo and invoking the supernatural is known as "black magic." A different occurrence, such as an individual being discredited, is considered to be a black deed. For example, a black man calling another black man a "NIGGER" would be considered a black deed. These are negative uses of the word "black."

Some famous quotations commenting on the concept of the word "black" have been used extensively. For instance, declaring a fish market "black" is a common quote used among trade unions in a marketplace. Boycotting by trade union members, such as "employing or favoring non-union workers or operating under conditions unfair by the trade union," is a situation that defines its use in the work force. Another famous phrase with the use of the word "black" is "black Friday," which is an occurrence marked by disasters, such as deadly plagues that destroy mankind. Despite the many differ-


ent quotations, alternative concepts to the uses of the word "black" are still in existence.

There are various occasions, such as wakes and funerals, where people wear black clothing to represent their mournful state. Wearing black expresses the emotional feeling a group of people have for a loved one who has passed away. It also illustrates the gloomy or calamitous situation at hand. Despite the emotional bearing of the word "black," it can also be used to condemn or discredit a person's responsibility. For instance, if a student is late entering a classroom, the student may be penalized with a black mark indicating his tardiness. Also, the word "black" can express a person's anger or rage during a particular situation. For example, someone about to commit murder or any type of harmful action toward another person may be burdened with anger that causes his or her facial expression to be black with rage. This may characterize the individual's hostile manner illustrating the evil and hateful attributes of the phrase "black despair."

Some positive concepts of the word "black" are very common in society. Every year, the designated month to celebrate Black History is February. During the time, famous Afro-American leaders, such as Jesse Jackson, Martin Luther King Jr., and many others, are acknowledged for their achievements, such as freedom of speech rallies, in our society.

Numerous concepts involving the word "black" can be expressed literally as well as figuratively through positive and negative attributes. If this word were to be taken out of the everyday colloquy of society, it would be greatly missed. We have become accustomed to the many interpretations it offers. It will always have a place in history. Also, it will never be disregarded or excluded from society's use. Nevertheless, the powerful meaning that the word "BLACK" possesses, whether assertive or skeptical, will continue to have an impact on the English language.

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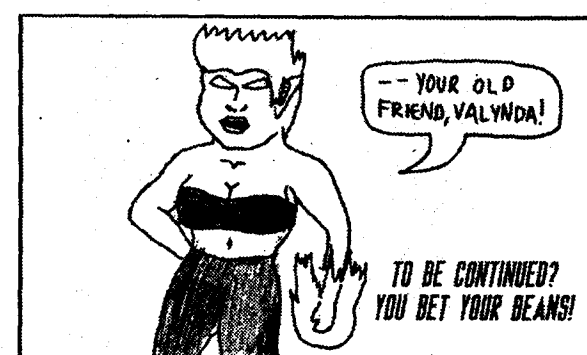
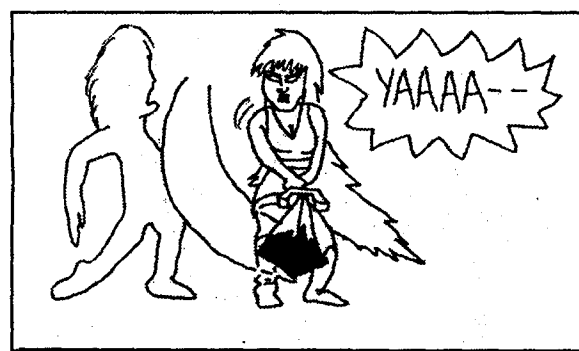
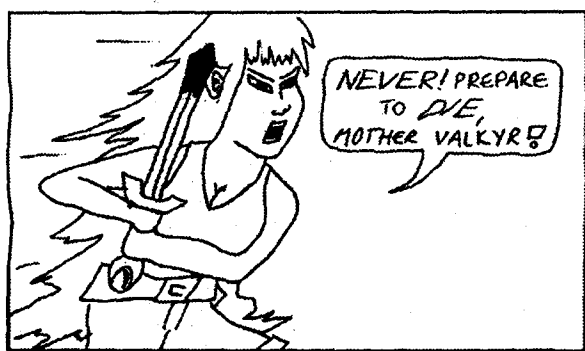
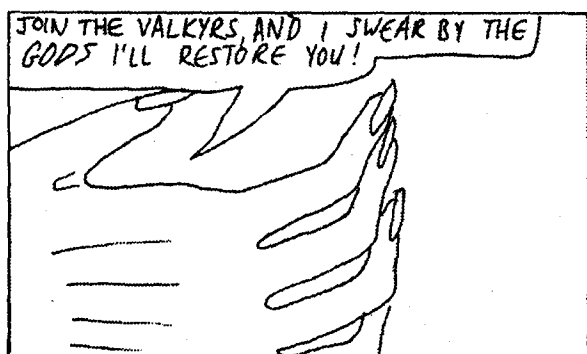
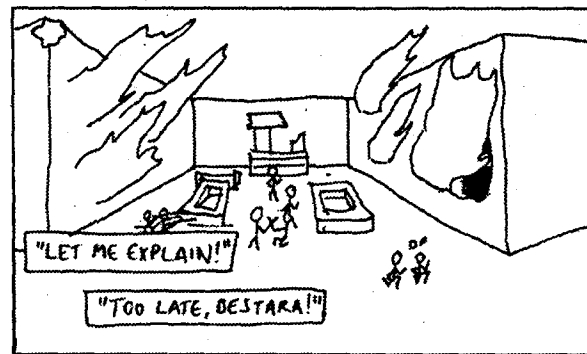
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Student Speakers Provide Best Perspective

from page 8

when the speech focuses less on the occasion and more on the speaker?

The content of the commencement speech may be self-serving rather than boost the school's image. Politicians can take the time to discuss their views on the budget deficit, the economy, or welfare reform. In another article from *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, W. Robert Connor describes how Hillary Clinton used her time at the University of Michigan to offer a preview of her ideas on health-care reform. The first lady's speech exemplifies the kind that families owing thousands of dollars and students eagerly anticipating the ceremony's end probably do not want to hear.

Deliberative speeches are for or against policies or candidates and belong in the political arena. Commencement ceremonies would benefit more from epideictic oratory—the type that marks a great moment and praises people for their achievement. Any competent faculty member or student could deliver a brief and thoughtful epideictic speech.

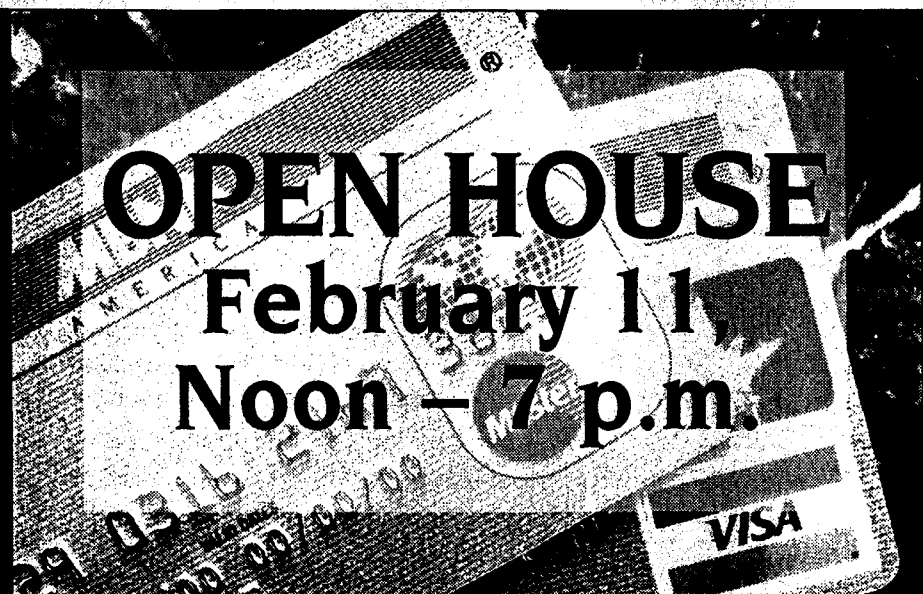
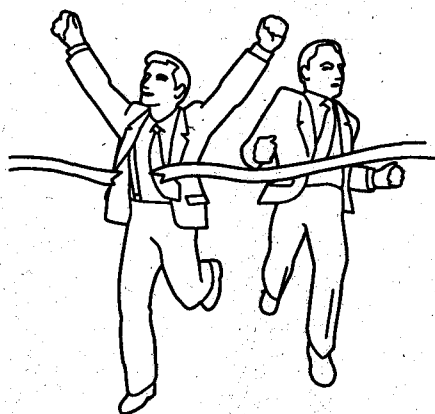
NSU realizes the significance students have at commencement ceremonies. Each year it selects a student speaker to address the audience. The selection process is uncomplicated. Every department (which includes Business and Administrative Studies, Computer and Information Sciences, Education and Behavioral Sciences, Liberal Arts, and Math, Science, and Technology) nominates two students according to various criteria, which range from overcoming great hardships to earning a high GPA.

Then a commencement subcommittee interviews these students and asks them to deliver a prepared

speech. The subcommittee recommends one student who can speak comfortably before a large group and has a message for the graduating class. This student usually works a faculty member to refine the speech. This planning fulfills the requirement that students have a central role in the commencement ceremony.

Status and recognition have their place in an academic ceremony but no rule requires every college to invite an outside speaker to complete a commencement ceremony. Sunday, May 4, NSU will make hundreds of deserving students the center of attention.

One highlight of the program will be the student address. This address may accomplish what no influential person's speech could and that is to attest to the quality of education the college provides. It also emphasizes the university's confidence in this education and proves that its prestige comes from the students it molds rather than the big-name celebrities it invites.



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Press Release

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 Wednesday, March 19: Carlos Toranzos — Anglica Polytechnic University (England)
 Thursday, March 20: Dr. Steven Alford — Nova Southeastern University
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 Film and commentary are artfully combined in this unique examination of women and migration in the

Americas. Dr. Ute Hermanns uses film clips from over three decades of Brazilian film in her discussion of the hardships, exploitation, and unfilled dreams of women migrants in Brazil. Carlos Toranzos examines the meaning of rural-urban migration in Chile, as reflected in the film version of Isabel Allende's award-winning novel *The House of Spirits*. Dr. Steven Alford uses two American films *The Border* and *El Norte*, to examine the plight of the female Hispanics and the problematic relation between an individual's desire to maintain her cultural integrity and the economic pull of "the north."
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Sports



Baseball Team 2-4 to Start Season

by Dan Illman
Sports Editor

Following a successful 32-21-1 1995-96 season, Head Coach Sonny Hansley's Knights baseball squad hopes to continue its winning ways this spring. The Knights struggled down the stretch last season, dropping eight of their last nine, and ending their run by way of a 4-0 defeat versus St. Thomas University in the FSC Playoffs.

Nova's star performers last year included first baseman Gary Horen, (.447 batting average, 7 home runs, 47 runs batted in) third sacker Brian Norris, (.344, 8, 46) and center fielder Claude Love (.298, 6, 47). Pitchers Felipe Suarez and Dan Zitnick rang up eight victories each, and closer Larry Collins saved eight.

Hansley has had to deal with the transfer of Horen to Florida International University, and the graduation of Collins. The first base vacancy is hoped to be filled by sophomore Raul DeCastro. The big lefty from the Dominican Republic is a trans-

fer from Miami-Dade North.

He was drafted by the New York Yankees in the 26th round of the 1995 draft, and at a daunting six-foot-three and two hundred and five pounds, DeCastro is expected to provide power to the Hansley lineup. Nova's pitching staff is stocked with 12 live arms, all competing for starting roles.

Suarez left Knight fans salivating for more following the season opener at Florida Tech. The junior from Bogota, Colombia overpowered Tech, allowing only two hits in eight-and-two-thirds innings. The righty struck out nine befuddled opponents before giving way to senior John Hassel.

Hassel squelched a potential Tech rally to preserve the 2-1 victory. The Knights took the lead for good in their half of the eighth inning. Love singled to open the stanza, and advanced to second on designated hitter Shaughn Nichols' sacrifice bunt.

DeCastro then made his presence felt, lacing a single to score Love

with the game-winner.

After dropping their home opener against the University of Tampa, Nova Southeastern exploded against Lynn University on February 4th. With a twelve run sixth, Nova took advantage of the ten-run mercy rule to win the seven inning contest, 20-9. While Nova's pitching was less than stellar, the bats more than made up for their throwing woes.

Second baseman Jose Cuadro had a perfect day at the plate, going 4-for-4 with a double and two runs batted in. Cuadro also scored four runs. Senior catcher Brian Gerity went 3-for-5, with a homer and two RBI'S, and Norris was 2-for-2 with a double, a homer, and six runs batted in.

Senior transfer Mike Redmond picked up the win in relief.

Since then, however, the Knights have slumped. Nova blew a 6-1 lead versus Barry and wasted a twelve-hit effort by the club.

Starter Hassel only allowed five hits in six-and-a-third, but the

Knights were plagued by costly throwing errors from Gerity and Norris.

Suarez didn't pitch poorly in his next start versus Rollins College, but a three-run homer by Pedro Rodriguez in the third inning deep-sixed the Knights. Nova wasn't able to touch Bryan Welch, who threw a complete game shutout. The Knights were only able to amass five hits in the 4-0 loss.

The bats let Nova's pitching staff down again versus Rollins the next afternoon. Senior Ryan Anschuetz walked seven in six-and-a-third, but only allowed four hits and two runs. Yet the Knights weren't able to muster up any sort of a rally against pitcher A.J. Brack.

Once more, the Knights were held to just five hits. Vaughn drove in Love for the Knights' only run.

Hansley must now find a way to awaken the sleeping giants in the Nova batting order. The pitching has been consistently good, and once the hitters wake up, Hansley figures to be in a good spot for conference success.

Knights Softball Raring to Go

by Dan Illman
Sports Editor

The tell-tale signs of spring are out in full force. It's not only because Punxsatawny Phil didn't see his shadow. One can guess that the winter doldrums are behind us by the sounds of cracking bats, freshly groomed lawns, and freshly filthy uniforms.

Yes, it's time to play ball again, and the Nova Southeastern University Knights softball team is a squad chock-full of talent.

The Knights put it together last season after a 4-6 start. The ladies finished the year with an excellent record of 27-20, and a berth in the Sectional title game (vs. Webber College). The Knights were led by the powerful Lisa Ignasiak, (.404 batting average, 11 homeruns, 55 runs batted in) speedy Melissa Carriere (.370, 37 stolen bases) and the versatile Shan-

non Sawyer (.343, 35 runs batted in, 16 wins).

This year, Robyn Handler's troops will suffer from the loss of Ignasiak to graduation. Yet shortstop Lenore Gurecki returns after missing her sophomore season to injury. The New York native earned All-Conference honors during her freshman stint.

Freshman Christy Hawley has already won the starting center fielder's job and is expected to add some more speed. Classmate Cameron Morgan hurled 14 no-hitters in her high school career, and should move into the starting rotation once she gets over some injuries. Junior Heidi Wickham has made the successful transition from shortstop to left field.

The transfer from the University of Utah has power and should shore up the middle of Handler's lineup.

The Knights opened the season in fine fashion, coming from behind to defeat Goldey-Beacom College in a

10-inning thriller. The ladies trailed 2-1 heading into their half of the tenth when the pesky Carriere reached base on an error by Goldey Beacom third baseman Audie Browne. She would score the tying run when junior Kim Eason smacked a single into left.

Gurecki, in her first game since freshman year, then doubled home the game-winner. Hawley went 2 for 4 in her Nova debut and joined Eason as the lone Knights with multiple-hit efforts.

Unfortunately for the ladies, they were outgunned in a 5-4 shoot-out in Game 2 of the doubleheader against the Delaware invaders. The Knights rained down eleven hits against their opponents, but fell short in the end. Hawley (3-for-4) and Eason (2-for-4) continued to scorch at the plate.

Carriere and junior transfer Mercedes Orozco each added two hits.

The Knights played valiantly the

next week versus NCAA Division II Barry University, but ran into a steel-armed buzzsaw named Kortney Stock in Game One. The senior from Glendale, Arizona tamed Nova's bats, scattering four scratch singles in seven innings of work.

Stock fanned seven to get the victory. Shannon Sawyer took the loss for Nova, despite allowing only one earned run and four hits in her seven frames. Wickham had two of the four NSU hits as the Knights fell 2-1.

Game 2 provided no relief for Handler's ladies. Eason struggled on the hill, allowing two earned runs and six hits in 4 and 1/3 innings. NSU wasted a three-hit effort by Carriere and Wickham's solo homer in the 5-2 loss.

Despite the 1-3 record as of press time, the Knights are a solid all-around bunch capable of great things. The A.D. Griffin Sports Complex should house some great moments for the Knights softball team this season.

AIDS Awareness Promoted

from page 6

"Don't use the opened condom when there is not air in the package!" Joel and T.J.'s point is to do the air check test.

T.J. explained that, yes, AIDS is a homosexual disease. It is also a heterosexual disease, a white disease, a black disease, a female disease, a male disease, an old disease, and a young disease. The AIDS virus does not discriminate.

This presentation was made possible by the following sponsors: The Wellness Center, Residential Life, the Career Resource Center, NSU Greek Council, Student Activities, and the Undergraduate Student Government.

A special thanks goes out to everyone who attended. S.H.A.P.E., the Greek System, the Student Government Association, and Student Life were four particular groups who had very powerful representation at this event.

If anyone ever needs to know more about AIDS, the Wellness Center provides a wealth of information. It is located on the first floor of the Goodwin Residence Hall, Room 144.

I can honestly say these two men made a definite impact on my life and help shape the way I feel about this deadly virus. For those who attended, the words "chicken burrito" will remain in our minds forever.



Superstar in South Florida for Two Shows

from page 6

sion special "Liza with a Z" received an Emmy Award for Most Outstanding Single Program-Variety and Popular Music. She was also named Female Star of the Year by the National Association of Theatre Owners. To this day, Minnelli is the only woman to have received Las Vegas' Entertainer of the Year honors for three consecutive years.

One of her greatest triumphs was her unprecedented three-week concert engagement at New York's historic Carnegie hall in May of 1987. Minnelli was the first and, to date, only entertainer in the hall's 100-year history to completely sell out three weeks of appearances. That critically-acclaimed performance was recorded and released internationally later that year, becoming an instant bestseller and one of the music industry's most highly-praised live concert recordings.

Over the recent years, Minnelli's appearances on Broadway have been limited but memorable. In 1975, her strength and talent were put to the test when she agreed to replace an ailing Gwen Verdon in the Broadway run of Kander and Ebb's "Chicago." With only one-week's rehearsal and no public announcement, Minnelli played to standing-room-only audiences for a period of five weeks.

In addition to her Oscar-winning performance in "Cabaret," she also starred in "Charlie Bubbles" (her feature film debut), "Tell Me That You Love Me, Junie Moon," "Lucky Lady," "A Matter of Time" (directed by her late father, Vincente Minnelli), "New York, New York," "Arthur," "Arthur 2 - On The Rocks," and 1991's "Stepping Out."

Minnelli is currently starring in the Broadway musical "Victor/Victoria," her first appearance on Broadway in more than a decade. Reliving 1975 all over again, she was asked to fill-in for an ailing Julie Andrews at the last minute and was pleasantly greeted by theater-goers. According to The New York Times, when the announcement came that Liza Minnelli would be taking on the role of Victoria Grant "the succeeding roar from the crowd was of the sort you normally hear in baseball stadiums."

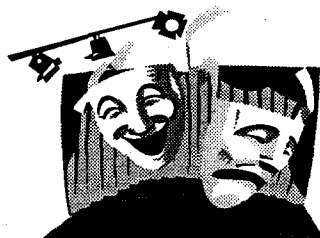
Minnelli will star in the musical through February 2.

Tickets for Liza Minnelli are \$35, \$55 and \$65. They can be purchased at the Broward Center's Box Office or by calling (954) 462-0222.

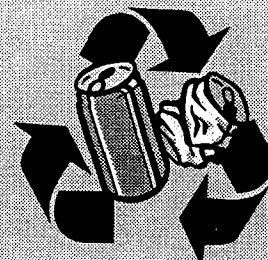
Tickets may also be obtained at any TicketMaster outlet.

Good seats are still available. Patrons interested in giving their ticket order priority attention can join Entourage, the membership family of the Broward Center. For more information on Entourage, call (954) 468-2681.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located at 201 S.W. Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.



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